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Presbyterian Church in the
U.S.A. Synod of New Jersey.
Minutes of the ... annual
session of the Synod of New
Jersey

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MINUTES

of the

SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY

for the year ending

October, 1862.

RAHWAY, N. J., October 21st, 1862.

The Synod of New Jersey met pursuant to adjournment in the First Presbyterian Church in this city at 7 o'clock, P. M., and was opened with a Sermon from Habakkuk, the Second Chapter, and the last clause of the fourth verse. "But the just shall live by his faith," by the Rev. Alexander T. McWill, D. D. in the absence of the Moderator, who had been appointed Chaplain to the 31st Regiment of New Jersey Volunteers, and who had accompanied his regiment to the seat of war.

After public worship the Synod was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Ravaud F. Rodgers, D. D., the last Moderator present.

PRESENT

From the Presbytery of Elizabethtown.

MINISTERS; Rev. William W. Blauvelt, D. D., Daniel V. McLean, D. D., Benjamin Corey, James T. English, Samuel L. Sheddan, J. Abiel Baldwin, Luther H. Van Doren, John C. Rankin, Edwin H. Reinhart, William Huntting, William M. Martin, V. Leroy Lockwood, Everard Kempshall, Charles C. Wallace, Gardiner L. Plumley.

ELDERS: From Laramington, Robert Craig; 1st. Plainfield, E. Dean Dow; Liberty Corner, William Annin; 1st Church Rahway, William B. Crowel; New Providence, Mathias Osborn; Baskingridge, John D. Stevens; Elizabeth Port, Joseph Alward; Woodbridge, William Brown; 2d Church, Rahway, Cornerlius Jewell; 1st Church, Elizabeth, Aaron J. Crane; Metuchen, Benjah Mundy; Perth Amboy, William La Farge; New Vernon, Henry Sedell.

From the Presbytery of Passaic:

MINISTERS: Rev. Samuel Hutchings, Orlando L. Kirtland, James C. Edwards, John F. Pingrey, William W. Hornblower, D. D., David Irving, Elijah R. Craven, D. D., George M. L. Blauvelt.

ELDERS: From the 1st. Church, Paterson, Mr. Henry Muzzey.

From the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

MINISTERS: Rev. Ravand K. Rodgers, D. D., Charles W. Nassau, D. D., Robert Baird, D. D., James Mac Donald, D. D., Alexander T. McGill, D. D., Hugh Hamill, George Hale, D. D., Rufus Taylor, A. D. White, John T. Duffield, D. D., Abraham Gosman, Samuel M. Hamill, Joseph C. Symmes, Henry B. Chapin, Edward D. Yeomans, Robert L. Manning, Arzsi L. Armstrong, Prentiss DeVeuve, Henry A. Harlow, William A. Jenks.

ELDERS: From Bound Brook, Mr. Daniel Polhemus; from 1st Church, Princeton; David Comfort; Pennington, I. G. Muirhead; Lawrence, Peter Davis; 4th Church, Trenton, Ezra B. Fuller; 1st Church, Cranberry, Peter J. Dey; Dutch Neck, Isaac J. Snedeker; Titusville, Theodore Voff; Highstown, Elias Riggs.

From the Presbytery of Newton.

MINISTERS: Rev. Aaron H. Hand, D. D., E. D. Bryan, William C. McGee, George C. Bush, John A. Reiley, William H. Kirk, Myron Barret, Robert B. Foresman, Samuel S. Studdiford, James Petrie.

ELDERS: From Greenwich, John P. Smith; 1st Church, Mansfield, Noah Cramin; Yellow Frame, William P. Vail; Hackettstown, John White; Lower Mt. Bethel, William H. McIlhenny; Pleasant Grove, John T. Hoffman; Stewartsville, Henry Teet; Harmony, James DeWitt; Phillipsburgh, Aaron Losey; Belvidere, John M. Sherred.

From the Presbytery of West Jersey.

MINISTERS: Rev. Moses Williamson, Samuel J. Baird, D. D., Charles Wood, John A. Annin, Joseph W. Hubbard,

Edward P. Shield, R. Hamill Davis, Frederic R. Brace, John L. Stewart.

ELDERS: From the 1st Church, Bridgeton, Henry B. Lupton; Deerfield, Thomas Bowen.

From the Presbytery of Susquehanna.

MINISTERS: Rev. Julius Foster, and Thomas L. Dowing.

ELDERS: None.

From the Presbytery of Luzerne.

MINISTERS: Rev. Ebenezer H. Snowden, J. B. Adams, Samuel F. Colt, Milo J. Hickok, D. D., A. Alexander Hodge, D. D., Jonathon Osmond, John Johnson, F. F. Kolb, J. Aspenwall Hodge, Jacob Weidman, A. I. Winterick.

ELDERS: From the 2d Church, Pottsville, J. M. Rossel; Pittston, John Conyningham.

From the Presbytery of Raritan.

MINISTERS: Rev. John A. Willox, William R. Glen, Henry E. Spayd, Alfred Yeomans, Joseph L. Van Dyke, John Burrows.

ELDERS: From Amwell United, 1st., George F. Wilson; Clinton, A. W. Dunham; Fox Hill, Moses Herrick; German Valley, Jacob M. Trimmer; Musconetcong Valley, Paul Merlett; Amwell 2d., Joseph G. Bowne.

From the Presbytery of Burlington.

MINISTERS: Rev. Henry Perkins, D. D., Villeroy D. Reed, D. D., Lewis C. Baker, I. Alstyn Blauvelt.

Samuel Miller.

ELDERS: From Allentonw, George Sinclair; 1st. Church,
Camden, James H. Stevens.

From the Presbytery of Monmouth.

MINISTERS: Rev. John M. Rogers, Thaddeus Wilson, Charles
Milne, Frank Chandler, John L. Kehoo, Donald McLaren,
D. D. Sahler, L. Alden Freeman, John H. Prazee.

ELDERS: From Middletown Point, Benjamin Griggs;
Shrewsbury, Thomas Curtis; Tennent Church, James
Rus.

From the Presbytery of Corisco.

MINISTERS: None

ELDERS: None.

ABSENT

Of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown.

MINISTERS: James B. Hyndshaw, Holloway M. Hunt, Lewis
Bond, Edwin Downer, Elias Riggs, D. D., Frederic
F. Cornell, Daniel Vanderveer, George Sheldon, D. D.,
Edward B. Edgar, A. T. Graves, William Scribner,
James McNeill, James B. Crane.

Of the Presbytery of Passaic.

MINISTERS: David Magie, D. D., Abraham Williamson,
Alfred Chester, Joseph M. Ogden, D. D., Edward
Harris, Robert Street, Hugh N. Wilson, D. D., Paul
E. Stevenson, David W. Peirson, David M. James,
James T. Brewster, James H. Clark, Edward M. Weiss,
Francis E. Puttler.

Of the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

MINISTERS: Isaac Van Doren, Jonathon Cogswell, D. D., Charles Hodge, D. D., Charles L. Stewart, John Maclean, D. D. L. L. D., Thomas L. Janeway, L. H. Atwater, D. D., Joseph Mahon, J. H. McIlvaine, D. D., James C. Moffat, D. D., John Hall, D. D., Miles T. Merwin, Thomas D. Hoover, John P. Westervelt, William H. Green, D. D., Thomas W. Cattell, Joseph R. Mann, D. D., James Stebbins, James H. Callen, Andrew B. Morse, Caspar W. Hodge, William L. Moore, George M. Giger, D. D., Howard Crosby, D. D.

Of the Presbytery of Newton.

MINISTERS: I. T. Field, Holloway S. Hunt, Thaniel B. Condit, Andrew Tully, Solomon McNair, James E. Miller, J. Kirby Davis, F. Knighton, Ephraim Simanton, Henry Rinker, George S. Mott, Robert W. Reeves, Philip W. Melick, Gilbert Lane, J. Sandford Smith.

Of the Presbytery of West Jersey.

MINISTERS: George W. Janvier, John Durt, Samuel Beach Jones, D. D., Daniel Stratton, Charles E. Ford, Allen H. Brown, Robinson P. Dunn, Benjamin L. Everitt, Chester Bridgeman, Nathaniel McConaughy.

Of the Presbytery of Susquehanna.

MINISTERS: Charles C. Corser, Thomas Thomas, Philander Camp, Darwin Cook, Halleck Armstrong, George W. Harriner, Andrew Barr, James G. Carnochan, Edward Kennedy, John L. Swain, David Craft.

Of the Presbytery of Luzerne.

MINISTERS: Thomas P. Hunt, John White, Charles D. Rosenthal, George Printz, E. W. Holmes, James L. Ferguson, J. D. Mitchell, D. D., N. Grier, Parke.

Cornelius R. Lane, John Armstrong, Andrew M. Lowry, Henry H. Willes, Winifred L. Parsons, William Thompson.

Of the Presbytery of Baritan.

MINISTERS: Jacob Kirkpatrick, D. D., Peter O. Studdiford, D. D., John Macnair, D. D., James Lewis, Benjamin Carrell, Edwin Town, John L. Janeway, George P. Van Wyck, Joseph Rogers.

Of the Presbytery of Burlington.

MINISTERS: William Chester, D. D., Alden Scovel, John Chester, John P. Robins, William L. Plumer, D. D., Robert Julien, W. L. Hofford.

Of the Presbytery of Monmouth.

MINISTERS: Charles Webster, Alexander Gulick, Isaac Todd, William M. Wells, Charles F. Worrel, Albert B. King.

Of the Presbytery of Corisco.

MINISTERS: James L. Mackey, R. H. Nassau, Cornelius De Heer, W. H. Clarke.

The roll of the Synod having been called, the Rev. Samuel L. Sheddan was chosen Moderator, and the Rev. George Hale, D. D., and the Rev. Abraham Gosman, were chosen clerks.

Resolved, That during the present Sessions of the Synod it be the order to meet at 9 o'clock A. M.-to have a recess at 12 o'clock-to meet at 1/2 past 2 o'clock P. M.-to have a recess at 5 o'clock P. M., and to meet at 7 o'clock P. M.

The Synod then adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9 O'clock, Oct. 22.

The Synod met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of the last Session of Synod were read.-

The Rev. George Sheldon, D. D., and the Rev. Messrs. Frederic F. Cornell, Holloway W. Hunt, Edward B. Edgar, Edwin Downer, and Daniel Vanderveer, of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown-the Rev. Drs. David Magie, and Joseph M. Ogden-the Rev. Messrs. Williamson, Street, Weiss, and James with Mr. Richard T. Paines, Elder from the 2d Church of Elizabeth, Wm. Rankin, Jr., Elder from the 3d Church of Newark, Mr. Samuel White Elder from the Church of Flanders, Mr. Nathan Foster Elder from the Church of Lyons Farms, and Mr. James W. Halvey, Elder from the Church of Connecticut Farms of the Presbytery of Passaic, the Rev. Drs. Charles Hodge, and Callen of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, with Mr. John Ford Elder from the 1st. Church, of New Brunswick, Mr. James H. Bruere Elder from the church of Erving, and Mr. Joseph G. Brearley Elder from the 3d Church of Trenton, of the same Presbytery-the Rev. Messrs. Condit Mott, H. W. Hunt, Tully, and Gilbert Lane, of the Presbytery of Newton, with Mr. Martin, Ryerson, Elders from the Church of Newton, of the same Presbytery-the Rev. N. Grier, Parke of the Presbytery of Luzerne-the Rev. Dr. Studdiford and the Rev. Messrs. Carrell, and Van Nyck of the Presbytery of Raritan, the Rev. John Chester of the Presbytery of Burlington-and the Rev.

Rev. Mr. Worrel from the Presbytery of Monmouth, appeared in Synod and assigned satisfactory reasons for late attendance.

Satisfactory reasons were assigned for the absence from the meeting of Synod of the Rev. Dr. MacNair, the Rev. Messrs. John L. Janeway-Knighton, Butler, and James H. Clark, they having been appointed Chaplains in the Army of the U. S. and having proceeded with their respective regiments to the seat of war.

It was stated to the Synod that the Rev. Mr. Van Doren of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and the Rev. Mr. Field, of the Presbytery of Newton were absent in consequence of the infirmities of age.

Satisfactory reasons were also assigned for the absence from this meeting of Synod of the Rev. Samuel Beach, Jones, D. D., of the Presbytery of West Jersey.

The Rev. Drs. Hickok and Craven, and the Rev. Messrs. Reinhart, Foresman, E. Yeomans, and McLaren, Ministers and Messrs. Muzzey, Jewell, Comfort and Commingham, Elders were appointed a committee of Bills and Overtures to meet in the Lecture Room of this Church, immediately, and afterwards on their adjournments.

The Rev. Drs. L. J. Baird and Wand, and the Rev. Messrs. English and H. Hamill, Ministers and Messrs. Wm. Annin, Cramer, and P. I. Dey, Elders were appointed a Judicial committee, to meet at the call of the chairman.

Mr. Wm. P. Vail and Mr. James Stevens were appointed a committee to examine the account of the Treasurer and to make an assessment upon the several Presbyteries to meet the contingent expenses of the Synod.

The Rev. Messrs. Rankin and Reiley, Ministers, and Messrs. Crowell and Polhemus, Elders were appointed a committee on leave of absence.

The Rev. Dr. Duffield and the Rev. Mr. Plumley Ministers and Mr. Snedeker, Elder were appointed a committee to examine the Minutes of the General Assembly and report any articles requiring the attention of the Synod.

The following committees were appointed to examine the Presbyterial Records.

The Rev. Messrs. Chapin and A. Yeomans, Ministers and Mr. Fuller, Elder, these of Elizabethtown.

The Rev. Messrs. L. W. Hamill and Foresman, Ministers and Mr. I. P. Smith, Elder those of Passaic.

The Rev. Messrs. Martin, and Van Dyke, Ministers, and Mr. John White, Elder those of New Brunswick.

The Rev. Messrs. Glen and J. A. Blauvelt, Ministers and Mr. Griggs, Elder, those of Newton.

The Rev. Messrs. G. Blauvelt and Wallace, Ministers and Mr. Hoff, Elder those of West Jersey.

The Rev. Messrs. DeVeuve and Sahler, Ministers, and Mr. Rue, Elder, those of Susquehanna.

The Rev. Messrs. Manning and Warlow, Ministers and Mr. Dunham, Elder those of Luzerne.

The Rev. Dr. A. A. Wodge, and the Rev. W. Petrie, Ministers and Mr. Russel, Elder, those of Raritan.

The Rev. Messrs. S. M. Studdiford and A. L. Armstrong

Ministers, and Mr. Herrick, Elder, those of Burlington.

The Rev. Messrs. Bush and Chapin Ministers, and Mr. Fuller, Elder, those of Monmouth.

The Rev. Messrs. E. Yeomans and Lockwood were appointed a committee to draft the Narrative of the State of religion, within the bounds of the Synod for the next year.

The question having been proposed by a member of the Synod, whether a plurality vote was decisive in all cases in which the Synod does not expressly demand a majority of all the votes, the Moderator decided that in such cases, the plurality vote was decisive of the Moderator and his decision was sustained by the Synod.

The committee appointed by the Synod at its last Stated Meeting to visit the 3rd Church of Newark. Made a report, which having been read and accepted was referred to a special committee of two ministers and one elder to bring in a minute expressive of the judgment of the Synod in the case which minute, it, was ordered, must embrace the report of the committee.

The Rev. L. J. Baird and the Rev. Mr. Fabbard, Ministers and Mr. Alward Elder, were appointed.

Resolved, That the next Stated Meeting of the Synod be held in the borough of Wilkesbarre, Pa., on the 3d Tuesday of October 1863, at 7 o'clock, P. M., and that the Moderator of the Synod-the Rev. Dr. A. A. Hodge the pastor of the church and Mr. T. H. Russel, Elder, be a committee to make arrangements for the religious exercises of the next meeting of the Synod.

The Rev. John I. Morrow of the Newark Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church-pasotr of the First Methodist Church in Rahway, was introduced to the Synod, and invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The committee appointed to draft the narrative of the state of religion, made a report which having been read was accepted, and referred to the chairman of the committee in connection with Drs. Magie and Macdonald for amendment.

It was made the first order of the day, for this afternoon, to hear the reports of committees appointed to examine the Presbyterian Records.

It was made the second order of the day, for this afternoon, to hear the Rev. Robert Baird, D. D. who had been appointed by this Synod as a delegate to attend the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance at Geneva, in the month of September 1861.

The Rev. Thomas Proctor, of the Synod of Chicago and the Rev. George H. Whitney, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Elizabeth, were introduced to the Synod, and invited to sit as corresponding members.

Synod had a recess until 1/2 past 2 o'clock.

At the close of the recess, Synod met and proceeded to business.

Synod entered upon the 1st order of the day for this afternoon-when the committees appointed to examine the records of the Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Newton, Susquehanna, Luzerne, Raritan, and Monmouth reported that they had attended to the duty assigned them-that the records had been kept with care, and recommended that they be approved.-

These reports were adopted.

The committee appointed to examine the records of the Presbytery of Burlington reported that they have examined the same and recommended that they be approved with the following exceptions.

1. In the record made of the meeting of Presbytery during the Sessions of the Synod at Pottsville, there is no record of either the ministers or elders who were present.

2. In the records of the meeting held in Burlington on page 136, the elders who were present are recorded but no mention is made of the churches represented by them.

The report was adopted.-

The committee to whom the narrative of the state of religion was referred, reported. The report having been amended, was adopted, and ordered to be read at the Synodical prayer meeting, and is as follows:-

One of the most important subjects demanding the attention of Synod is the consideration of the progress the church has made during the past year. But in order that such a review may be profitable for the present and instructive for the future, we require to have a standard by which to measure that progress. And doubtless without any elaboration or discussion all will accept this the true standard-an entire consecration to the service of Christ-a consecration that shows itself in the use of worldly possessions, and in the ordinary duties of life, and truly and as heartily as in the duties of religion.-

It would seem then that the question demanding an answer in our review is what advance is any have our churches made toward this standard?

1. If we consider the spirit manifested by our Ministers, there will be found somewhat to deplore- Instead of showing themselves to be spiritual they are carnal. There is apparent a deep and wide spread spirit of worldliness. The necessities of our present state of being, occupying the greatest portion of our time, and the perversity of our nature combine to form an influence, almost irresistible to bring us under the way of worldly things. To maintain a heavenly temper under this pressure requires the abiding influence of the Holy Spirit. And this influence can only be obtained and then retained by seeking it constantly and cherishing it assiduously. Whatever interfered with this duty increases worldliness

As to the year under review we cannot report that the churches have advanced in spirituality-But we fear that truth compels us to report the reverse. And there has been at least one additional cause for this. The absorbing topic of the year has been the unhappy condition of our country. While the Government of our fathers must ever hold a place in the affections of Christians, second only to the church of Christ, yet it is to be feared that the multiplied duties growing out of our situation have encroached upon the spirituality of the churches. Many of our members are in the Army, and many are laboring for their comfort and more than usual grace is requisite to resist the secularizing tendency of such occupations.-While we cannot counsel less activity in worldly affairs. We would urge the importance of endeavoring in all things to realize the Apostles injunction to be "not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, Serving the lord."

2. And in the daily walk of our church members, we see the fruits of such a worldly spirit. "The works of the flesh" meet the eye rather than "the fruits of the spirit." Fruits of the spirit do indeed appear, and many plants of the Lord are green and flourishing. But many, alas, are growing in the shade. Many of our people give cheering evidence of delightful growth in grace. But in others there is too much conformity to the maxims and practice of the world. Nearly all the reports from the Presbyteries notice prevalence of the profanation of both the name and the day of the Lord. Not only do these vices abound in the world, but they also invade our congregations. Our Church, standing in the van among those who sanctify the Sabbath, exhibits nevertheless a doubtful tendency. It is doubtful whether the tendency is toward the practice of the world.

Nor can we speak of any special efforts, or even awakened attention toward raising our character or strengthening our position with regard to this day. And we cannot but feel anxious and alarmed in beholding how all the enticing pleasures that lead into the broad road of intemperance prevail to ensnare our youth, who are the hope of the church, and even to drag down many, who by profession are followers of Christ. The efforts to check this growing vice are being released, and like a rising tide, it is sweeping thousands of victims to the inevitable doom of the drunkard. And this Synod dare not fail to cry aloud against this enormous evil; and we would with great earnestness, warn those under our care to sheer the beginnings of this sin, which is the only course of safety. Nor would we cease calling to the aid of all those means commonly designated "Moral Suasion" that pure and wholesome legislation, which shall restrain the power of those who feed this tide of woe, and protect the weak who are unable to resist the tide.

3. With reference to family religion, no special reports have come up from the Presbyteries. But there is great reason to fear that there are many families where both the parents are in full communion with our church, where the vice of prayer is never heard, and where God is not acknowledged unless it is in the brief words of grace at table. There is nothing in such households to distinguish them from the world. Their influence is deadening to all religious interests, and a great hinderance to the work of the ministry. Children that grow up under such influences are not "Commanded to keep the way of the Lord," like Abraham's household, and they can never become the steady and reliable members of the church. If they are ever gathered in, it may be doubted whether they strengthen or weaken the power of the church for good. Certainly the army of those that trouble Israel is largely drawn from such families.

But it is delightful to notice an evident improvement in our church, in her case of the young. All our reports speak of increased attention to Sabbath Schools, Bible Classes, and to Catechetical instruction. This is the more cheering from the fact, that there had been a great falling off, in the latter respect from the practice of our fathers. Parents have committed a great error in devolving the duty of instructing their children too much upon Sabbath Schools, and Bible Classes. These instructions are only designed to be allies to home culture. As such they are highly important. But although they may to extent supply the lack of home culture where that is wanting, they never can take its place and cannot exert so powerful an influence on the rising generation. While therefore we cordially commend these institutions we would also exhort heads of families to greater diligence and faithfulness in training their children at home. There is also cheering indication that our church is giving increased attention to her baptized members. In many places these have constituted a class almost wholly overlooked and uncared for. Their relations to the church have not been sufficiently set forth-their duties have not been impressed upon them, and they have grown up with the feelings of aliens;-There is a marked improvement in this respect. But still there is reason for the exhortation to be more earnest in attention to this subject.

4. There is reason for rejoicing to be found in the ministrations of the word within our bounds-in the growing number of pastoral relations formed-and in the increased attendance upon the means of grace-. It is delightful, in the midst of political agitations, to hear of the unanimity of sentiment among our people on the great questions of the day-of the harmony and quietness that have prevailed-and of the progress our people have made in learning the lesson of man's dependance

upon God. And it is an exceedingly gratifying fact that while our ministers have ever been foremost to avow their loyalty, and to labor for the support of the cause of law and order by enalcatating the great duty of sustaining the national Government, yet our pulpits have been remarkably free from agitating political discussions-The preaching of the past year has been more than usually characterized by earnest and faithful exhibitions of the great doctrines of grace and the humbling but consoling and soul-fortifying doctrine of Divine Sovereignty.

5. The reports from the Presbyteries very generally remark an increased attendance upon the social meetings for prayer. Wherein is the life of the church exhibited. We have usually had occasion to deplore a want of interest in such meetings. But even now, pleasing as such an increase must be, it may not exhibit the growing spirituality of our people so much as manifest a deep solicitude for friends in the army. In many places special meetings are held to pray for our army and country. These meetings are largely attended, and a most solemn interest pervades them. This fact affords an encouraging indication that the calamities God has sent upon us have driven his people nearer to him in prayer.

6. The pecuniary condition of nearly all our churches is most prosperous. Several houses of worship have been erected during the year, and others have been repaired. There is a growing sense of the value of church privileges, and consequently an increasing willingness to give liberally for their support.

Our people are advancing in their estimation of pastoral labors and in their care of those of those that are over them in the Lord. In reference to the relations of our church to the poor, it is believed that the poorest person in our communities can find access to the greater part of our houses of worship. The obstacles in their way are rather educational than pecuniary. It requires a particular kind and degree of education to make persons feel at home amongst us. There is a certain unwilderness arising out of the very nature of our system of truth and order. But it may certainly be maintained that in the present condition of the world, there is no system better adapted to reach all classes of men. Yet we need to stir ourselves up to more diligence in applying our system to secure such practical results-and perhaps this admonition applies particularly to the eldership. There is no body of men, of equal numbers possessing more of the elements of influence and power than is to be found in our eldership. But surely it will be admitted that this power is not felt as it should be, or as it might be. In order to aggressive movements these officers must put forth their power, and as they do this our church will advance in her missions of bearing the gospel to all men.

7. In the benevolent operations of our church there is much that indicates cheering progress. There has been a falling off in the sums of contributions in some instances-But in others an increase. In one or two of our presbyteries there has been a very large increase. The reports of the past disastrous year as compared with those of two years ago, a year of abounding prosperity, exhibit an increase of more than \$4000 contributed to the Boards of our church. Local causes may explain these cases to the credit or to the shame of our churches. But

besides this, our people contributed largely toward the temporal and spiritual comfort of our army. So that evidently there is diffused a greatly increased spirit of benevolence.

But although all this is exceedingly gratifying yet there is need of calling the attention of our people distinctly and earnestly to the Bible Standard and method of liberality-that liberality which grows out of these two great principles, viz: Everything we have belongs to the Lord, and we are only stewards of his bounty-and a liberality that manifests itself in the simple method of "laying by in store as God hath prospered us," a certain portion of our income to be devoted unto the Lord. Not only does this standard require of us a large increase of our liberality, but also the peculiar exigencies of our Boards add emphasis to the demand. While sacrificing largely for our country, we are called upon to make sacrifices for our church, such as we have never yet made. Sacrifices some may call them, but they should rather be called the necessary and natural exhibitions of our devotion to the service of our risen and ascended Lord.

8. The fruits that have been gathered, within our bounds during the past year, accord with what might have been expected from our standard of consideration. The results of a single year cannot be taken as the accurate indication of our consecration. But there will always be an approximation. The Conversion of the world cannot be expected, until the people of God can

come "to consecrate themselves living sacrifices" unto God. As they approach this standard, this day will be hastened. There are indications that God has not forsaken us, and thus is reason to praise sovereign mercy found in the fact that all our Presbyteries report some engathering into all our churches, and some have enjoyed largely the influences of the spirit. Among those may be mentioned all the churches of Princeton—the church of Hamilton Square, Lanington, Perth Amboy, 1st. Mansfield, Stewartsville, Mauch Chunk, and Bloomsbury—and these influences have also been felt by the colored people of the 1st. church of Elizabeth. And here we would make grateful record of the fact that the power of Divine grace has been displayed in the College of New Jersey, and on board the U. S. steamer Niagara, whose chaplain is a member of one of our Presbyteries. In the first instance more than forty—in the second more than seventy, professed a hope in Christ. And our younger sister Monmouth sends us words of cheer and signs of progress from her interesting field.

Rarely have we been so free from the savages of death. But one of our Ministers has been called away. The mystery working providence of God has removed the Rev. William Clemens from the Mission in Corisco. Admirably qualified for the work, both by nature and by grace, and not more than fully prepared for it, we mourn for him as one cut off in the beginning of his days and yet submit ourselves to him, "who doeth all things well."

From this review of our field we may gather the cheering conclusion that the church has made some advancement toward the true standard. Every

where a varying struggle is going on-a conflict is raging. But the church is gaining ground-and the evidence fore-shadows coming glory; fore-tokens final triumph. For this let us thank God and take courage. And let us each descend to his place of duty, resolved to be more faithful and patient to labor and to wait until the Lord shall "shall arise, and have mercy upon zion-until the time to favor her, yea, the set time is come."

The Stated Clerk was directed to have the narrative published in the New York Observer-the Presbyterian and the Presbyterian Standard.

The Synod proceeded to the second order of the day for the afternoon and heard the Rev. Robert Baird, D. D., who made some interesting statements respecting the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance held at Geneva, in September 1861, and which he has attended as the delegate of the Synod.

It was made the order of the day for 3 o'clock P. M., on Thursday to hear the Rev. Wm. J. R. Taylor, D. D., one of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society, on behalf of that institution.

The committee on religious exercises, made the following report, which was adopted-

1. The Moderator to preside, and give out a hymn.
2. Reading the scriptures and prayers by the Rev. Frank Chandler.
3. Reading the narrative by the Rev. Mr. Symmes, the chairman of the committee appointed to draft it.

4. Address on behalf of the Boards of the church by the Rev. Mr. Coe, Secretary of the church extension committee.

5. Psalmody by the Rev. Mr. Chapin.

6. Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Nassau.

7. Address by the Rev. Dr. Reed.

8. Psalmody and Benediction by the Rev. Dr. Duffield.

The committee appointed at the last stated meeting of the Synod to enquire, and report at this meeting whether any measures are necessary and feasible to secure greater faithfulness in family religion, and the spiritual training of our children in the house, and the Sabbath School, made a report which having been read, was accepted and placed upon the docket.

Resolved, That the Rev. Dr. McGill be requested to furnish a copy of his sermon preached at the opening of the Sessions of the Synod for publication.

The Rev. Robert Barid, D. D., and William Rankin, Jr., were appointed a committee to superintend the publication of the sermon, in case Dr. McGill should comply with the request of the Synod.

The judicial committee reported Judicial Case No. 1. being the complaint of the session of the church of Flanders against a decision of the Presbytery of Passaic, excepting to the records of the session of that church, in the case of "the resumption of the active duties of an Elder."

The committee would recommend that as the only exception taken by the Presbytery has respect to a slight deficiency in the sessional record, and the exception of the Presbytery as entered on the book of session is itself subject to criticism on the score of clerical accuracy the sessions be advised to withdraw its complaint, and that further proceedings cease. The report and recommendation of the committee were adopted.--whereupon the complaint was withdrawn with the consent of the parties.

The committee of Bills and Overtures, reported Overture No. 1. which having been read was accepted--Pending the discussion on the adoption of the report the Synod had a recess until 7 o'clock--the hour for attendance upon the Synodical prayer meeting.

At the close of the recess, Synod convened and attended upon the exercises of the Synodical prayer meeting, agreeably to the recommendation of the committee on devotional exercises.

At the close of the religious service, Synod adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock, October 23

The Synod met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

Present as before, together with the Rev. John Hall, D. D., the Rev. Lyman H. Atwater, D. D., of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and the Rev. Charles D. Rosenthal of the Presbytery of Luzerne, who assigned satisfactory reasons for late attendance.

The minutes of the last session of Synod were read.

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer reported that they had attended to that duty, and find the same correct, shewing a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of the Three dollars and three cents.

The report was adopted.

The same committee having been appointed to make an assessment on the Presbyteries to meet the contingent expenses of the Synod, reported that Forty dollars would be needed for that purpose and recommended that the Presbyteries be assessed as follows: viz:

Presbytery of Elizabethtown,	\$5.00
" " Passaic,	5.00
" " New Brunswick,	5.00
" " Newton,	5.00
" " Susquehanna,	3.00
" " Luzerne,	3.00
" " West Jersey,	4.00
" " Raritan,	4.00
" " Burlington,	2.00
" " Monmouth,	3.00
" " Corisco,	<u>No Charge.</u>
	40.00

The report and recommendation of the committee were adopted.

The Synod resumed the discussion on the adoption of the report of the committee of Bills and Overtures-Pending the discussion, the report was recommitted, and Drs. Wodge, Hornblower and Duffield, Ministers and Mr. Ryerson Elder, were added to the committee.

The Rev. Joseph M. Jones, D. D., of the Synod of Philadelphia, and the Rev. Peter A. Studdiford of the Synod of New York, of the Reformed Dutch church, were introduced to the Synod, and invited to sit as corresponding members.

It was made the first order of the day for this afternoon to hear Dr. Jones on behalf of the committee having in charge the fund for disabled ministers and widows and children of deceased ministers.-

The judicial committee reported judicial case No. 2, being the appeal and complaint of William B. Guild, against the Presbytery of Passaic, which having been read, was referred back to the committee;

The same committee reported judicial case No. 3, being the complaint of William B. Guild respecting the action of the committee appointed by the Synod at its last stated meeting to visit the 3d. church of Newark, which having been read was laid on the table.

The special committee appointed to draft a minute in reference to the report of the committee appointed by the Synod to visit the 3d. church of Newark, made a report, which was accepted and laid on the table.

Judicial case No. 3 was taken up-The previous question was called for and ordered. The main question was then put, and the report of the judicial committee was adopted, and is as follows:

With respect to the complaint of William B. Guild, as to the action of the committee of Synod, it is the opinion of the judicial committee

that he is entitled to a hearing before this body upon the question of confirming the report of said committee by the action which he is divested in his office as a ruling Elder in the 3d Church of Newark.

Synod then had a recess until 1/2 past 2 o'clock.-

At the close of the recess the Synod met and proceeded to business.

The Judicial committee again report Judicial case No. 2, which having been read a ain, was adopted, and is as follows.-

In the matter of the appeal and complaint of Mr. William B. Guild, against the Presbytery of Passaic, the judicial committee are of opinion that whilst it is questionable whether the Presbytery decided correctly in refusing to entertain his appeal against the session of the 3d. church of Newark, for want of notice to the session in as much as the session through its Moderator, Dr. Craven expressly refused to claim the benefit of that omission, yet the committee are of opinion that the appeal cannot lie, because the questions at issue were not within the jurisdiction of the Presbytery-the matter of complaint being the compliance of the pastor of the 3d. church with the order of Synod at its 1 st meeting, by inserting upon the records of the session an extract from the proceedings of the commission of Synod with reference to the accessibility of the members of Synod.

The committee on leave of absence reported that they had given leave of absence to the following members of Synod--after Wednesday to the Rev. Messrs. McLaren, Foreman, Taylor, Condit, and Reiley, Ministers, and to Messrs. Dewitt, Sherred, Polhemus, Riggs, Trimmer and Annin, Elders--after Thursday A. M. to the Rev. Messrs. James, Dowling, Rankin, Weiss, Winterick, Robert Baird, D. D., Lane and Edwards, Ministers, and Messrs. White, Muerhead, Stevens and Hoffman, Elders--and after Thursday, P. M., to the Rev. Messrs. A. A. Hodge, Van Dyke, and Vand, Ministers and Messrs. Nail, Mexlitt, Fuller, Smith and Losey, Elders.--

The committee of Bills and Overtures reported overture No. 1., which has been recommitted--Pending the discussion on the adoption of the report the hour for the order of the day arrived when the Synod heard the Rev. Dr. Taylor, one of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society--in an address presenting the condition and prospects of that institution.

Whereas this Synod have received authentic information that the several Boards of the church in consequence of the present state of the country are seriously embarrassed in their operations and in danger of being obliged to withhold appropriations already promised or absolutely necessary. Therefore, resolved, That the Synod earnestly exhort the ministers and churches under its care to make increased exertions to enable the Boards of our church efficiently to continue their operations.

Resolved, That the Synod enjoin on its several Presbyteries to take such action as they may deem wise to secure the attention of the Ministers, and churches to this important object.

The consideration of the report of the committee of Bills and Overtures was resumed--and after having been amended, was adopted and is as follows.

The committee of Bills and Overtures report that they have received three distinct overtures--one of these papers is from the Presbytery of Burlington, the second from the Presbytery of West Jersey, and the third is anonymous. They all agree in requesting the Synod to express to the President of the United States, its desire that he should appoint another day of humiliation, fastness, and prayer; also in requesting that in case the President should not make such an appointment, the Synod should recommend such a day for its churches. The overture from the Presbytery of Burlington adds, a request that Synod issue a pastoral letter to its churches appropriate to the time. The anonymous overture proposes also a series of resolutions declaring the mind of the Synod, upon the rebellion now existing in our country.

The committee recommends that these propositions be all substantially adopted as embodied in the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas, being deeply impressed with the sinfulness before God of the present rebellion against our Government--with the wide spread wickedness of our whole nation, which has brought upon us all, the chastisement of civil war--with the necessity of that humiliation which the divine judgments demand, and are well fitted to induce, and with the duty of trusting sincerely in God alone for our national deliverance, and fearing that our people at large are not duly alive to the religious aspects of our public trouble, Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this synod express to all the people under its care the deep and solemn conviction that the armed rebellion now in progress against our National Government cannot be

viewed in any other light than as a grievous sin against God and his church-and that in the present conflict of our Government with this rebellion, there can be but two parties-the friends and the enemies of the Government-and therefore all who in any way sympathize with or uphold the rebellion are involved in the guilt of its great sin.

Resolved, 2. That we regard the continuance the enlarged and calamitous proportions of our civil war, as a solemn token of God's righteous displeasure with our whole nation and a most impressive admonition that we are not suitably humbled for the manifold heinous sins of corruption, pride, ambition, self confidence, forgetfulness of God, covetousness, Sabbath desecration, irreverence, both of rulers and people, and oppression, especially of the colored race.

Resolved, 3. That a committee be appointed to draft a memorial to the President of the United States to be signed by the Moderator and stated clerk, requesting him to appoint an early day for fasting, humiliation and prayer.

Resolved, 4. That in case the President shall not have previously appointed such a day, that this Synod hereby recommend to all its churches to observe the third tuesday in December as a day of fasting, with suitable public and private exercises of devout humiliation and prayer, that the Lord may turn away his anger from our country, save the Union from destruction, and restore peace and harmony to our whole land.

Resolved, 5. That these resolutions be read by the Ministers of this Synod to their respective congregations from the pulpit.

The committee of Bills and Overtures was appointed to prepare the memorial to the President of the United States in regard to the day of fasting and prayer.

The Rev. Joseph H. Jones, D. D., addressed the Synod on behalf of the Fund for disabled Ministers, and the widows and children of deceased ministers.

Resolved, That the Synod having listened with deep interest to the statements of the Rev. Dr. Taylor with reference to the American Bible Society and the address of the Rev. Dr. Jones in behalf of the Fund for disabled Ministers, do hereby recommend the causes thus represented to the increased contributions of the churches.

The Synod resumed the consideration of the report of the special committee appointed to draft a minute in reference to the report of the committee appointed by the Synod to visit the 3d church of Newark, N. J.,--Before any action was taken thereon, Mr. William B. Guild addressed the Synod in accordance with the report of the judicial committee, Pending the address of Mr. Guild, the hour for recess arrived, and Synod took a recess until 7 o'clock, P. M.

At the close of the recess, Synod convened and proceeded to business.

Ordered, That the Stated Clerk forward the statistical report of the Synod to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay the janitor's bill of five dollars and the bill for stationary amounting to eighty seven cents.

Resolved, That on account of the unusual length of documents to be transcribed by the Stated Clerk the present year, the sum of fifteen dollars be paid to the Stated Clerk in addition to his salary.

The Statistical reports from the Presbyteries composing the Synod were presented and accepted, and are as follows.-viz:

The Presbytery of Elizabethtown, report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 28 Ministers, and have under their care 16 churches and 3 candidates.

MINISTERS: James B. Hyndshaw, Holloway W. Hunt, Lewis Bond, Edwin Downer, William W. Blauvelt, D. D., Elias Riggs, D. D., Daniel V. McLean, D. D., Frederic F. Cornell, Benjamin Cory, James T. English, Samuel L. Sheddan, J. Abeel Baldwin, Luther Van Doren, Daniel Vanderveer, John C. Rankin, Edwin H. Reinhart, George Sheldon, D. D., Edward B. Edgar, William Huntting, Allen T. Graves, William Scribner, James H. McNeill, Wm. M. Martin, James B. Crane, W. Leroy Lockwood, Everard Kempshall, Gardiner L. Plumley, Charles C. Wallace.

CHURCHES: Lamington, 1st Plainfield, Pluckamin, Liberty Corner, 1st Rahway, New Providence, New Vernon, Baskingridge, Elizabeth Port, Westfield, 1st Woodbridge, 2d Rahway, 1st Elizabeth, Perth Amboy, Metuchen, German Church, Meyersville.

The Presbytery further report that on the 25th of March, 1862, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Samuel W. Studdiford and the 1st Church of Plainfield, and on the same day dismissed Mr. Studdiford to join the Presbytery of Newton-that on the 25th of April, they received the Rev. Daniel V. McLean, D. D., from the 2d. Presbytery of Philadelphia and installed him Pastor of the 1st Church, Plainfield, and that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral

relation between the Rev. Elias N. Crane and the church of New Vernon-that on the 7th of October, they received the Rev. Luther N. Van Doren from the Presbytery of New York, and on the 15th of the same month, they installed him Pastor of the church of New Vernon-and that on the 15th of September they dismissed the Rev. Elias N. Crane to join the Presbytery of Nassau.

The Presbytery also report that all the churches under its care have made contributions to the different Boards of the Church-to the Disabled Ministers Fund and to the American Bible Society.

By order of Presbytery,
JAMES T. ENGLISH, Stated Clerk.

2. The Presbytery of Passaic, report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 22 Ministers, and have under their care 13 churches.

MINISTERS: David Magie, D. D., Abraham Williamson, Joseph M. Ogden, D. D., Samuel Hutchings, James C. Edwards, Robert Street, John F. Pingrey, David Irving, George M. L. Blauvelt, David V. Pierson, Edward M. Weiss, Alfred Chester, Edward Harris, Orlando L. Kirtland, Hugh N. Wilson, D. D., Paul E. Stevenson, William W. Hornblower, D. D., Elijah R. Craven, D. D., David M. James, James P. Brewster, James H. Clark, Frances E. Butler.

CHURCHES: 2d Church, Elizabeth, Mount Freedom, Chatham Village, Connecticut Farms, Springfield, 1st Church, Paterson, 1st Church, Morristown, 3d. Church, Newark, Lyons Farms, Mount Olive, Chester, Flanders, German Church, Paterson.

The Presbytery further report that on the 16th of April, 1862, the name of the 2d Church of Morristown was dropped from the roll of our churches-that on the same day the Rev. John F. Pingrey was received from the Presbytery of Newark, and Mr. Francis

E. Butler, a licentiate under the care of this Presbytery was ordained to the work of the Gospel ministry, as an evangelist--and that on the 7th of October, the Rev. Hugh N. Wilson, D. D., was received from the classis of New Brunswick of the Reformed Dutch Church, and the Rev. James H. Clark from the Presbytery of Iowa.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

ROBERT STINEBT, Stated Clerk.

3. The Presbytery of New Brunswick, report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 44 Ministers, and the Rev. John Lyle who is a "foreign Minister on probation," and have under their care 20 churches, 10 licentiates, and 19 candidates.

MINISTERS: Isaac Van Doren, Jonathon Cogswell, D. D., Ravaud K. Rodgers, D. D., Charles Wodge, D. D., Charles S. Stewart, Charles W. Nassau, D. D., John Maclean, D. D., Robert Baird, D. D., Thomas L. Janeway, D. D., James M. Macdonald, D. D., Alexander T. McGill, D. D., Lyman H. Atwater, D. D., Hugh Hamill, Joseph Mahon, George Hale, D. D., Joshua H. McIlvaine, D. D., James C. Moffat, D. D., Rufus Taylor, John Wall, D. D., Miles T. Merwin, Thomas D. Hoover, John P. Westervelt, Ansley D. White, John T. Duffield, D. D., Wm. Henry Green, D. D., Thomas W. Cattell, Joseph R. Mann, D. D., James Stebbins, Abraham Cosman, James W. Callen, Samuel M. Hamill, Henry B. Chapin, Edward D. Yeomans, Andrew B. Morse, Caspar W. Wodge, Robert L. Manning, Amzi L. Armstrong, Joseph G. Symmes, Prentiss DeVeauve, Henry A. Harlow, William L. Moore, George M. Giger, D. D., Howard Crosby, D. D., William A. Jenks.

CHURCHES: Bound Brook, 1st Princeton, 2d Princeton, Pennington, 1st Trenton, 2d Trenton, 3d Trenton, 4th Trenton, Highstown, Lawrence, 1st Cranbury, 2d Cranbury, Kingston, Hamilton Square, Dutch Neck, Hwing, 1st New Brunswick, 2d New Brunswick, Titusville, Witherspoon St., Princeton.

LICENTIATES: Henry M. Baird, Joshua W. Janeway, Edward H. Spooner, William Travis, C. Howell Hazard, Sanford W. Smith, William J. Wright, William A. Starret, Samuel Conn, Frederick H. Wines.

The Presbytery further report that on the 20th of December 1861, they dismissed Mr. Peres B. Bonney a Licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of Rockaway-that on the 24th of the same month they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Jesse B. Davis and the Titusville Church-that on the 4th of February 1862, they dismissed the Rev. Jesse Davis to join the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia-that on the same day they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Rufus Taylor and the Wightstown Church-received the Rev. James Stebbins from the Presbytery of Burlington, and Mr. Frederick H. Wines, a licentiate from the Presbytery of St. Louis-and on the same day, took under their care as Candidates for the Gospel ministry, Messrs. William P. Lloyd, C. Morris Wines, John Wiley, Richard Wiley, and David J. Stwater-that on the 22d of March they dismissed Mr. Robert McKinney a licentiate, to put himself under the care of the Lake Presbytery-that on the 15th of April, they received the Rev. John P. Westervelt from the Presbytery of Albany, the Rev. James H. Callen from the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia and the Rev. William L. Moore from the Presbytery of Rockaway-that on the same day they received Mr. William A. Jenks, a licentiate from the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia, and took under their as Candidates for the Gospel ministry Messrs. Daniel Dervelle, William W. Edwards, Benjamin

Y. George, and Samuel L. Mitchell-that on the 1st of May they installed the Rev. James P. Callen pastor of the Kingston church-that on the 11th of June, they ordained Mr. William A. Jenks, a licentiate, to the work of the Gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the Titusville Church-that on the 4th of August, they dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., and the 1st Church of New Brunswick and on the 6th of the same month dismissed Mr. Samuel B. Dod a Licentiate under their care to put himself under the care of the Hudson Presbytery-that on the 18th of September they dismissed Mr. Sterling M. Galt a licentiate under their care to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of New Castle-that on the 7th of October, they received the Rev. John Lyle from the Presbytery of Belfast, Ireland, as a Foreign Minister on Probation-that on the same day they took under their care Messrs. Benjamin F. Patterson, Samuel Conn and Arthur Merrill, as Candidates for the Gospel Ministry and on the following day the 8th of October they licensed Mr. Samuel Conn to preach the Gospel.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

A. D. WHITE, Stated Clerk.

4. The Presbytery of Newton, report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 25 ministers, and have under their care 26 churches, 2 licentiates, and 6 Candidates.

MINISTERS: Jacob F. Field, A. W. Ward, Thaniel B. Condit, W. D. Bryan, William C. McGee, George C. Bush, John A. Kelley, Solomon McFair, William H. Kirk, James W. Miller, J. Kirby Davis, F. Knighton, Ephraim Simonton, Henry Rinker, Myron

Barret, George S. Mott, Robert S. Foresman,
Robert W. Reeves, Philip W. Melick, Gilbert
Lane, Andrew Mully, Samuel W. Studdiford, J.
Sandford Smith, James Petrie, Wolloway W. Hunt.

CHURCHES: Greenwich, Stillwater, Swartswood,
Mansfield, 1st., Marksborough, Yellow Frame,
Hackettstown, Blairstown, Upper Mt. Bethel,
Belvidere, Stroudsburg, Shawnee, Middle Smith-
field, Oxford, Danville, Newton, Lower Mt. Bethel,
Hope, Knokilton, Mansfield, 2d., Pleasant Grove,
Stewartsville, Andover,isbury, Harmony, Phillips-
burgh.

LICENTIATES: E. Clark Cline, D. K. Freeman.

The Presbytery further report that on the 23d
of October 1861, the Rev. F. D. Bryan was installed
pastor of the 1st church, Mansfield-that on the
7th of January, 1862, the pastoral relations of
the Rev. James Y. Mitchell, to the church of Phillip-
sburgh, and of the Rev. George C. Bush to the
church of Hackettstown were dissolved-that on the
22d of April, the pastoral relations of the Rev.
Philip W. Melick to the church of Upper Mt. Bethel,
and of the Rev. J. Sandford Smith to the church
of Andover were dissolved-that on the same day
the Rev. Samuel W. Studdiford was received from
the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, and Mr. E. Clark
Cline a candidate under their care was licensed
to preach the gospel-that on the 23d of April,
the Rev. Samuel W. Studdiford was installed pastor
of the church of Stewartsville-that on the 21st
of August the Rev. James Y. Mitchell, was dis-
missed to join the 4th Presbytery of Philadelphia-
that on the 28th of August the Rev. George C.
Bush was installed pastor of the church of Hacketts-
town-that on the 7th of October the Rev. James
Petrie was received from the Presbytery of Hudson,
and Mr. D. K. Freeman a licentiate was taken
under the care of Presbytery from the Presbytery

of Transylvania, and that on the same day Mr. Joseph C. Wycoff, was taken under the care of the Presbytery as a Candidate for the gospel ministry.

Respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

GEORGE C. BUSH, Stated Clerk.

5. The Presbytery of West Jersey, report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 19 Ministers, and have under their care 23 Churches, and 4 Candidates.

MINISTERS: George W. Janvier, John Burt, Moses Williamson, J. Beach Jones, D. D., Daniel Stratton, Charles E. Ford, Samuel J. Baird, D. D., Allen W. Brown, Robinson P. Dunn, Charles Wood, John A. Annin, Joseph W. Hubbard, Edward P. Shields, Benjamin J. Everitt, Chester Bridgeman, Nathaniel McConoughy, R. Hamill Davis, F. N. Brace, John L. Stewart.

CHURCHES: Cold Springs, 1st Church, Bridgeton, Salem, Williamstown, Fislerville, Woodbury, Absecon, Leeds Point, Cedarsville, 2d Church, Bridgeton, Pittsgrove, Blackwoodtown, Woodstown, Levedesborough, Millville, Deerfields, Brainerd, Hammonton, Greenwich, May's Landing, 2d Church, Cape May Co., Cape Island, Cape May Court House.

The Presbytery further report that on the 29th of October 1861, they ordained Mr. Frederick R. Brace, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry as an Evangelist, and on the same day organized a church at Hammonton-that on the 10th of February 1862, they received Mr. John

L. Stewart a licentiate from the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia-and on the next day, February 11th ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church of Greenwich, and that on the 8th of October, they dismissed Mr. Samuel A. Mollhinney, a licentiate to put himself under the care of the Presbytery of St. Paul.

Respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

ALLEN H. BROWN, Stated Clerk.

6. The Presbytery of Susquehanna, report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 13 Ministers, and have under their care 26 churches, 2 licentiates, and 4 candidates.-viz:

MINISTERS: Charles C. Corss, Julius Foster, Philander Camp, Darwin Cook, Thomas L. Dewing, Mallock Armstrong, George H. Marriner, Andrew Barr, James G. Carnochan, Edward Kennedy, John L. Swain, David Craft, Thomas Thomas.

CHURCHES: Wyalusing, Orwell, Warren, Tysox, Towanda, Troy, Canton, Crawfordsville, Friendsville, Rome, Elkland, Silver Lake, Rushville, Herrick, Monroeton, Burlington, Sullivan, Wyalusing 2d., Peshoppen, Brookfield, Stevensville, Knoxville, Lawrenceville, Independance, Fall Brook, Pottersville.

LICENTIATES: William C. Davis, Lyell T. Adams.

The Presbytery further report that on the 30th of January, 1862, they ordained Mr. John L. Swain, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry, as an evangelist-that on the 15th of April, they received the Rev. Philander Camp from the Presbytery of Winnebago-that on the 27th of August, they dismissed the Rev. Jonas Denton, to connect himself with the Presbytery of Rockaway-

that on the same day they received under their care the church of Pottersville-that on the 28th of August, they ordained Mr. David Craft, a licentiate under their care, to the work of the gospel ministry, with a view to his appointment as chaplain to the hundred and forty first Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

JULIUS POSTER, Stated Clerk.

7. The Presbytery of Luzerne, report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 25 ministers, and have under their care 28 churches, 2 licentiates, and 3 candidates.viz-

MINISTERS: Ebenezer H. Snowden, Thomas P. Hunt, John White, Charles D. Rosenthal, George Printz, J. B. Adams, W. W. Holmes, James J. Ferguson, Samuel L. Colt, Milo J. Nickok, D. D., J. D. Mitchell, D. D., N. Crier Parke, A. Alexander Hodge, D. D., Cornelius R. Lane, Joan Armstrong, Jcnathon Osmond, A. H. Lowry, Henry H. Welles, John Johnson, Winfield L. Parsons, J. Aspinwall Hodge, William Thompson, F. F. Kolb, Jacob Weidman, A. J. Winterick.

CHURCHES: Kingston, Wyoming, Summit Hill, Plymouth, German Church, Scranton, New on, Northumberland, Mehoopany, Harvey's Lake, Pottsville, Scranton, Pittston, Weatherly, Schuylkill Valley, Beaver Meadow, Mahanoy City, Wilkesbarre, Tunkhannock, Hazleton, Askley, White Raven, Port Carbon, Cony-ingham, Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Fort Clinton, Scots Church, Nanticoke.

LICENTIATES: James P. Hughes, Richard P. Edward.

The Presbytery further report that on the 16th of October, 1861, they dismissed the Rev. Edwin Bronson, to join the Presbytery of Susquehanna,-that on the 26th of January 1862, they deposed from the gospel ministry, Henry L. David-that on the 18th of June, they received under their care Mr. A. L. Winterick, a licentiate from the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia-that on the day following, (the 19th of June) they ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry as an evangelist-that on the 18th of September, they organized the church of Mahanoy City-that on the 10th of August, they dissolved the church of Guadalupe-and that on the 25th of September, they received the Rev. Winfield L. Parsons, from the Presbytery of Rochester City.

Respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

N. GRAY BAKER, Stated Clerk.

8. The Presbytery of Maritan, report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 15 ministers, and have under their care 16 churches, 2 licentiates, and 2 candidates.viz-

MINISTERS: Jacob Kirkpatrick, D. D., Peter O. Studdiford, D. D., John Maenair, D. D., James Lewers, Benjamin Carrell, Edwin Town, John F. Willox, John L. Janeway, George B. Van Wyck, William R. Glenn, Joseph Rogers, Henry E. Spayd, Alfred Yeomans, Joseph S. Van Dyke, John Burrows.

CHURCHES: Amwell United First, Lambertsville, Clinton, Milford, Holland, Rosemont, Fox Hill, Flemington, Amwell First, German Valley, Kingwood, Frenchtown, Solebury, Forrestville, Musconetcong Valley, Bloomsbury, Amwell Second, Pinecum.

LICENTIATES: A. M. Hutchinson, John McKelway, Jr.

The Presbytery further report that on the 25th of November, 1861, they received under their care Mr. John Burrows a licentiate from the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia, and on the same day following, ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed him pastor of the Second Presbyterian Congregation of Amwell, and that on the 29th of the same month, they dissolved the sixth church, Amwell, and transferred its members to the care of the Session of the church of Flemington.

Respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

PETER O. HUNNIFORD, Stated Clerk.

9. The Presbytery of Burlington, report to the Synod of New Jersey, that they consist of 12 ministers, and have under their care 12 churches, and 1 licentiate.

MINISTERS: William Chester, D. D., Henry Perkins, D. D., Alden Scovel, John P. Robins, Villeroy D. Reed, D. D., Samuel Miller, William L. Plumer, D. D., John Chester, Lewis C. Baker, Robert Julien, L. Alstene Blauvelt, H. L. Wofford.

LICENTIATE: Martin A. Lyerson.

CHURCHES: Allentown, Bordentown, Beverly, 1st Camden, Mount Holly, Columbus, Cuckerton, Bass River, Burlington, 2d Camden, Plumstead, Plattsburgh,.

The Presbytery further report that on the 20th of November 1861, they received the Rev. Villeroy D. Reed, D. D., from the Presbytery of Troy, and on the same day installed him pastor of the 1st church in the city of Camden, that on the 6th of

April, they received the Rev. Robert Julien from the Classis of New Brunswick, of the Reformed Dutch Church—that on the same day they dismissed the Rev. Daniel L. Stewart, D. D., to join the Presbytery of Albany—that on the 22d of April, they received Mr. M. L. Mofford, a licentiate, from the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia, and on the same day ordained him to the work of the gospel ministry, as an Evangelist—and that on the 7th of October, they received the Rev. William L. Plumer, D. D., from the Presbytery of Alleghany City.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery,

L. C. BAKER, Stated Clerk.

10. The Presbytery of Monmouth, report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of 15 ministers, and have under their care 14 churches, and 2 candidates.

MINISTERS: Charles Webster, Isaac Todd, Charles F. Worrell, John M. Rogers, Thaddeus Wilson, Alexander Gulick, Charles Milne, Frank Chandler, John L. Kehoo, Donald McLaren, Daniel D. Sahlner, Willima M. Wells, Albert B. King, J. Alden Freeman.

CHURCHES: Holmansville, Willstone, Middletown Point, Shrewsbury, Freehold Village, Manalapan, Tennent Church, Red Bank, Jamesburgh, Port Washington, Square Village, Toms River, Manchester, Cedar Creek.

The Presbytery further report that on the 22d of October, 1861, they ordained Mr. Albert B. King, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry and installed him pastor of the church at Port Washington—that on the same day they ordained Mr. L. Alden Freeman, a licentiate under their care to the work of the gospel ministry, as an Evangelist— and that on the 7th of May 1862, they installed the Rev. John H. Frazee pastor of the church at Toms River.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

By order of Presbytery

D. D. SAHLER, Stated Clerk.

No report was received from the Presbytery of Corisco.

The Synod resumed the consideration of the report of the special committee appointed to draft a minute in reference to the report of the committee appointed to visit the 3d Church of Newark, when Mr. William B. Guild having been heard in full, their report was adopted and is as follows:

Resolved, That the report of the committee be approved--their action confirmed, and the entire report entered upon the records as follows:

In an "extract from the minutes of the Synod of New Jersey, at its session in Pottsville, Pa., October 17th, 1861," appear the following resolutions. Viz:

1st. Resolved, That in view of existing difficulties in the session of the 3d. Church of Newark, apparent in the case originating there, which has just been decided by this body, that Drs. Macdonald, and Wickok, and Prof., Stephen Alexander, of the 1st. Church of Princeton, be a committee to visit said church, and ascertain by a vote taken in any mode that the committee may deem proper whether any of the elders are unacceptable to a majority of the church, and if it should be found that such is the case that the fact be certified to the Pastor, to be entered on the session records, and that such be no longer regarded as acting elders of the church.

2d. Resolved, That the said committee be authorized to take any additional steps which the interests of the church in question, and the cause of Christ may require for the restoration of harmony and peace.

3d. Resolved, That all the proceedings in the case of William B. Guild, returned to us from the General Assembly be dismissed by common consent.

Of this Extract from the minutes of Synod a certified copy was furnished to the committee therein named, which copy was signed by David W. Rodgers, Stated Clerk, and George Hale and A. Gosman temporary Clerks; and the undersigned being the committee appointed by resolutions as already cited beg leave respectfully to present herewith a detailed report to the Rev. the Synod of New Jersey, of their (the committee's) acts and proceedings in fulfillment of the duties assigned to them.

SATURDAY, October 19th, 1862.

The committee met in Prof. Alexander's study in Princeton, N. J.-Present, all the members-the Rev. Dr. Macdonald was recognized by the committee as its chairman, in accordance with the order of designation of the committee by the Synod, and the organization of the committee was completed by the appointment of Prof. Stephen Alexander as Clerk.

The proceedings of the committee were opened with prayer.

It was resolved, That the interests of the Church in question required a speedy adjustment of their difficulties, and that as the chairman of the committee is expected to occupy the pulpit of the church on the morrow, he in the first place recite in the hearing of the church action of Synod in the matter in question as made known in their resolutions already herein cited, and that he thereupon give notice that a meeting of the church would be held on the

succeeding day (Monday, October 21st) in the lecture room of the church, at 4 o'clock, P. M. for the purpose of taking the vote prescribed by the Synod-and that, if found to be necessary a second meeting would be held in the same place, in the evening, to insure the gathering in of all the votes which might be offered.

The committee having made these arrangements and given these directions, concluded that they had done all that was requisite, previously to their meeting in Newark on Monday the 21st, the day designated for taking the vote.

But before the close of the day on which they had made these arrangements, viz, Saturday, the 19th the committee received a letter from the elder, William B. Guild, remonstrating against the appointment of so early a day, it being a time, moreover at which he could not be present, allodging withal other reasons against the prosecution of the matter then, and concluding with a request that, if the intention of a meeting of the church on Monday were about to be carried into execution, he might be notified by telegraph-giving his direction for the purpose-in order that he might have time to make an appeal to the General Assembly-the letter is the document marked A, and it is hereto annexed. (see page 312.)

The committee upon the receipt of this communication for Mr. Guild, Resolved, as before that the interests of the church required a speedy settlement of the matters in question, and moreover that it was not indispensable that the elders should be present, when the vote was taken but on the contrary that it would be preferable that they should not attend the meeting and Mr. Guild had been so informed-

It was moreover Resolved by the committee that at the meeting of the church already determined upon the first question to be proposed to the church by the committee should be, are the church now ready to vote upon the question proposed to them by the Synod?

The following telegraphic dispatch was then sent to Mr. Guild, directed as he had indicated.

"At meeting on Monday, at 4 o'clock. First question to be--Are church now ready to vote. If not, postpone. Reply to this.

Signed

James Macdonald.

In his reply, Mr. Guild reiterated his objections and sent to the committee afterward a second letter. It is document marked B, and is annexed to this--See page 313.

The committee having forwarded their dispatch to Mr. Guild, adjourned to meet in Newark on Monday, 21st of the month.

On Lord's day, October 20th the chairman of the committee in accordance with their resolution, at the close of the sermon in the church, reversed the action of the Synod, as made known in their resolutions already cited, and then issued the following notice as is certified by himself, viz.

"Now therefore, In the name and by the authority of the committee appointed by the Synod, I do give notice that there will be a meeting of the church, in the Lecture Room of this church, tomorrow, the 21st instant at 4 o'clock P. M. under the direction of the

committee, for the purpose of taking the vote prescribed by the Synod, if by a previous vote, the voters declare their readiness then and there to proceed and if necessary, the meeting will be continued in the Evening."

Certified copy is Signed by
James M. Macdonald, as
Chairman of the committee,

who adds,

"The above notice was read by me, morning and afternoon, in the pulpit of the 3d. Church of Newark, on Sabbath, October 20th, 1861.

Signed,

James M. Macdonald.

MONDAY, October 21st, 1861.

Pursuant to adjournment the committee met in the city of Newark. Present, Every member of the committee.

The meeting was held in the study of the Pastor of the 3d. Presbyterian Church, but the Pastor himself was not present.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

The arrangements which would be appropriate at the meeting of the church were again discussed, and the following resolutions passed unanimously.

1. Resolved, That the Moderator at the opening of the meeting be requested to make a concise statement of the circumstances under which the resolutions, constituting this committee were adopted.

2. Resolved, That the first question to be put to the church by the committee shall be—are the church now ready to vote upon the question proposed to them by the Synod—reciting the resolution of Synod in which the question is stated.

Also, with reference to the main question, it was 3. Resolved, That whereas the decision as to who are acceptable to the church or otherwise, in the office of Elder, will itself in effect be an election of Elders, and whereas also, the Book of Discipline of the Presbyterian Church prescribes that the method of so doing shall be that most commonly in use in the church holding such election, and whereas also, it had been the usage in the 3d. Presbyterian Church of Newark, that the male members of the church should alone vote in the choice of Elders, Therefore, Resolved, That this mode be adhered to in the present instance.

4. Resolved, That the manner of taking the vote specified in the preceding resolution shall be, That every voter place on a ballot the name or names of those members of the existing session who are acceptable to him-omitting the name or names of those who are unacceptable.

5. Resolved, That in deciding the preliminary question, viz: Are the church now ready to vote upon the question proposed to them by the Synod, all the members of the church be invited to vote: the same being also regarded as being most nearly accordant with the principles laid down in the Book of Discipline.

On the afternoon of the same day, at the appointed time, 4 o'clock, the committee attended the meeting of the church, and took the direction of the same: the chairman of the committee officiating as Moderator of the Meeting.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

The Moderator then made the statement directed in the first resolutions of the committee prescribing the cause of proceedings.

Mr. Guild's second letter to the committee, Document B. on page 313, was also read.

A motion was then made that the matter proposed by the Synod be postponed for 60 days.

For this a substitute was offered-That the meeting are now ready to vote upon the matter of the unacceptability of the Elders of the church, as proposed by the Synod of New Jersey.

The meeting refused to consider the first motion and agreed to vote upon the substitute. Tellers, themselves members of the church, were accepted by them, and the question being put, Are the church now ready to vote upon the question proposed to them by the Synod?-the vote was very nearly unanimous in the affirmative.

In accordance with the resolution already specified the male members of the church were then called upon to vote by ballot-Every vote specifying on his ballot, the members of the existing session who were acceptable to him as Elders.

The vote was taken under the superintendence of the committee; the tellers already specified acting as a committee of scrutiny to assure themselves-the church and the Synod's committee, that none other than persons duly authorized, were permitted to vote.

After all had voted, who then chose to exercise the privilege, the meeting adjourned, to assemble again at 1/2 past 7 o'clock; to afford a farther opportunity for others who might still be desirous to vote.

MONDAY, October 21st, 1/2 past 7 o'clock
P. M.

The church again met, and the balloting already specified, was completed.-

The result of the canvass of the ballots received in the afternoon, and again in the evening, is as follows-viz:

Whole number of votes---82.

Of these declaring the candidate to be acceptable,

John R. Chandler	received	74 votes.
John R. Davison	"	77 " .
Frederick L. Thomas	"	70 " .
William Rankin, Jr.,	"	71 " .
Jacob D. Vermilye,	"	65 " .
Lorenzo Boyden	"	79 " .
John C. Crane	"	70 " .
William B. Guild	"	19 " ..

This mode of taking the vote of the church was understood to be acceptable to the members of the session, none of whom it is believed were present when the votes of the church were taken, or during the preceding discussions.

This committee then called for suggestions from the church, as to whether anything else could be, done in furtherance of the 2d resolution of the Synod, viz: "That the said committee be authorized to take any additional steps which the interests of the church in question, and the cause of Christ may require for the restoration of harmony and peace.

Nothing additional was suggested, but the following resolution which was adopted unanimously indicated how far the good feeling of the church was secured.

Resolved, That the thanks of the members of the Third Presbyterian Church be and are hereby tendered to the committee of Synod, who have visited us, for the kind and impartial manner in which they have fulfilled their duties on this trying occasion.

After some concluding remarks by the Rev. Dr. Hickok, the church meeting was closed with prayer.

MONDAY EVENING, October 21st, 1861.

The committee appointed by the Synod again met in the study of the Rev. Dr. Craven, Pastor of the 3d. Presbyterian Church of Newark-the members of the committee, and they alone being present.

After reviewing the result of the votes given in the afternoon and evening, as already exhibited, the committee Resolved, That the following persons by these votes are declared to be acceptable as elders in the 3d. Presbyterian Church of Newark-viz:

John Chandler, John R. Davison, Frederick L. Thomas, William Rankin, Jr., Jacob D. Vermyle, Lorenzo Boyden, John C. Crane.

and that William B. Guild is, by these same votes, declared to be unacceptable to a majority of the voters, and that he is no longer to be regarded as an acting elder of the 3d. Presbyterian church.

In accordance with the resolution of Synod, a copy of this last resolution duly certified by the committee was deposited for delivery to the Pastor of the church, in order "that the same might be

might be entered upon the sessions records." A statement of the whole number of votes, as well as of the number cast for the several candidates was prefixed to this.

The committee then having completed the duty assigned them by Synod to the best of their ability closed their meeting with prayer and adjourned, Sine die and the whole report of their proceedings is now very respectfully submitted to the Rev. Synod from whom they received their appointment.

J. M Macdonald

M. J. Hickok Committee

Stephen Alexander

Letter from Mr. Guild, Marked A.

Newark, N. J., Oct. 18, 1861
Friday Evening.

Rev. M. J. Hickok, D. D.,

Dear Sir:

It was with surprise I received yours of this date, at six o'clock this evening. I arrived home last night at 10 o'clock and left this morning-and have an engagement tomorrow in New York, and expect to leave for the West Monday morning. When the committee was appointed by Synod, I really hoped that all our difficulties would be settled.- But if after what I stated to Mr. Macdonald and yourself-and the positive agreement of Mr. Craven that no meeting should be called until I returned from the West, I certainly cannot consent to have the influence of all those opposed to me in the church, going round in the congregation for two days drumming up persons to vote at such meeting when I am absent. I leave you to judge if I could expect even justice under such circumstances.

I therefore, drop this as my protest against the decision of the committee to hold such meeting under the circumstances, as I understood you both, that you would wait until Dr. Craven and myself notified you-also you well know that my complaint to Synod was that they wished to call a meeting suddenly-when they were all prepared, and I was

not etc.--all I ask is even justice. I now ask this favor, (if you still decide to hold such meeting) please telegraph me 38 Murray St., N. Y., at my expense--that I may have tomorrow afternoon to make my appeal to the General Assembly, within the ten days, as I leave Monday morning.

Yours truly,
William B. Guild.

Letter from Mr. Guild, Marked B.

Newark, N. J., October 20, 1861.

Rev. James Macdonald, D. D.
Rev. M. J. Hickok, D. D.
Stephen Alexander

Dear Brethren:

As I must leave home tomorrow morning at 7 o'clock for the west, I will be pardoned no doubt, for addressing your committee tonight. After vote of Synod sustaining my appeal and complaint, and pronouncing the action of the session null and void, I was not prepared for the action of Synod appointing a committee to visit the 3d church, but when the committee was appointed, I arose at once, and crossed the church and said to Dr. Craven, you know I have to return to the west immediately, of course this committee will not visit the church until I return--Certainly not was his answer. I agreed then to join him immediately on my return, in a letter to the committee--also, when Dr. Hickok and yourself called at the Hotel, you both will certainly recollect that I told you my circumstances--that I was embarrassed in my business, and has not the control of my time as formerly; also that I had returned from the west expressly to attend the Presbytery and Synod--I certainly left you both with the definite understanding that no meeting would be held until I returned--you will recollect in my letter to Dr. Wickok at

Princeton on Saturday last my objections to holding the meeting on Monday while I must be engaged in preparing to leave home, my opponents in the church would be influencing many who know nothing of the facts in the case, holding meetings. Dear Brethren, I am sorry to say here, and am ready to prove the fact that such a meeting was held on Saturday evening, at the house of one of the elders William Rankin, Jr.,-also that letters have been written and sent, and what other prejudicial acts to me have been done, I know not. I havenot had time scarcely to speak of the subject. I ask you, dear Brethren, is it right that a vote should be taken under such circumstances? In reading the action of the Synod in the church to-day, I felt aggrieved that the action of the Synod sustaining my appeal and complaint was not read, as the congregation knew nothing of such action in my favor, and thus was lost to me the moral effect of such action. Moreover, the resolutions read in the church were naturally supposed to be the only result reached in the consideration of my appeal from the action of session and Presbytery.

I have appealed from the action of the Synod and have given notice of complaint of the action of the committee, not because of any want of confidence or respect for the committee, but because I saw in the course pursued a plan to deprive me of all the advantage of the successful result-of my resistance to wrong and injustice-I fully believe that in the retrospect in view of all the facts in the case, you will perceive that I could have done nothing else, and will entirely justify my course. I shall continue to hope still that the committee will defer the meeting of the church until my return. I think it will be better for every reason to do so.

With great respect and high esteem.

I am as ever,

Yours very sincerely
William B. Guild.

P. S. If the meeting takes place, I would request that you read this letter before the proceedings commence-I think it is due to me that my position should be distinctly understood as well as my motives for appeal.

W. B. G.

The committee on Bills and Overtures reported a form of memorial to the President of the United States in reference to the appointment of a day of fasting and prayer, which having been read, was amended and adopted, and is as follows:

To his Excellency---The President of the United States of America.

Sir:

Allow us respectfully and earnestly to ask your attention to the following paper, which has just been adopted by the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church in the state of New Jersey, and a part of Pennsylvania, assembled in their annual Synod at Rahway, N. J.-a body representing 222 Ministers--197 churches, and 24,212 Members.

Whereas, Being deeply impressed with the sinfulness before God of the present rebellion against our government, with the wide spread wickedness of our whole nation which has brought upon us all, the chastisement of civil war; with the necessity of that humiliation which the divine judgments demand, and are well fitted to induce, and with the duty of trusting sincerely in God alone for our national deliverance, and fearing that our people at large, are not duly alive to the religious aspect of our public troubles.

Therefore, Resolved, That this Synod express to all the people under its care its deep and solemn conviction that the armed rebellion now in progress against our national government cannot be viewed in any other light, than as a grievous sin against God and his church, and that in the present conflict of our government with this rebellion, there can be but two parties-the friends and the enemies of the government and therefore all who in any way sympathize with, or uphold the rebellion are involved in the guilt of its great sin.

Resolved, That we regard the continuance, the enlarged and calamitous proportions of our civil war, as a solemn token of God's righteous displeasure with our whole nation and a most impressive admonition that we are not suitably humbled for the manifold heinous sins of corruption, pride, ambition, self confidence, forgetfulness of God, covetousness, Sabbath desecration irreligion both of rulers and people, and oppression, especially of the colored race.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft a memorial to the President of the United States, to be signed by the Moderator and Stated Clerk, requesting him to appoint an early day, for fasting, humiliation and prayer.

We desire to represent to your excellency in the strongest terms our conviction that the early appointment of another day of Humiliation and prayer, would meet the cordial response, not only of our own people, but of all the churches in the Loyal states-and we do sincerely hope that you may find it consistent with your official

duties, and with your own views of the state of public mind to make such an appointment.

Ordered. That the foregoing memorial be forwarded to the President of the United States signed by the Moderator and Stated Clerk of the Synod.

The report of the committee appointed at the last meeting of the Synod, to enquire and report at this meeting whether any measures are necessary and feasible to secure greater faithfulness in family religion and the spiritual training of our children in the house and the Sabbath School, which report was accepted and placed upon the docket, (page 285.) was taken up, and having been amended, was adopted, and ordered to be placed upon the files of the Synod.

The Rev. Drs. L. J. Baird and McIlvaine were appointed a committee to address an overture to the General Assembly, embodying the proposition contained in the closing paragraphs of the report, which are as follows;

From the suggestions already made, our view as to the only adequate remedy will be anticipated. We are persuaded that it will not be found in anything short of a careful revision of our Directory for worship and readjustment of its provisions to the condition of things involved in the employment of the Sabbath School. Measures short of this may palliate the inconveniences, but nothing less will effect a radical cure. In conducting such a revision the following are some of the most important

requiring attention.

1. To reclaim the Sabbath afternoon or evening expressly for family instruction, and enforce the duty upon parents.

2d. To give a distinct constitutional recognition to the Sabbath School as a cherished instrumentality of the church for the nurture of her own youth, and the Evangelization of others, and provide that the time appropriate be ample as esteeming this to be a cardinal means of grace.

3d. To restrict its assemblies in all ordinary cases to one part of the day, so as to avoid trenching upon the time appropriated to the paramount duties of parents.

4th. To secure to the pastor unequivocally, as the divinely appointed teacher of the lambs of the flock the prerogative and hold him to the responsibility of presidency over the school with provision for a vice president to serve in the absence of the pastor.

5th. To recognize the church session as invited with authority and responsible for the details of the organization-the appointment and removal of teachers, and the whole government of the school.

6th. To provide for such a system of distinctive instruction as will secure to our youth a thorough training not only in the doctrines of grace, but in the principle of order which the scriptures set

forth, and keep continually before their minds the burden of baptismal obligations, and the value of covenant privileges as sealed to the children of God's people.

The present is, perhaps not the most fitting time for engaging in such a revision. Nor are we sure that the mind of the church is mature for entering upon it. Investigation, discussion, and comparison of views may be necessary to prepare the way for wise and harmonious action. To aid in such investigation and stimulate discussion is the design of this report, in the hope that the result may be judicious and effectual measures reached at no distant day. In the mean time your committee would respectfully recommend that an overture be transmitted to the General Assembly for the publication by that body of a pastoral letter on the subject of the present report, embodying such instructions to the churches, as in its wisdom may be thought best to secure greater faithfulness of parents in fulfillment of baptismal vows--a due subordination of the Sabbath school to the authority of pastors and sessions, and the efficient and harmonious cooperation of all the instrumentalities of the church, in the training of our youth--the future hope of the church of God, of our country and the world.

The same committee was instructed to report anew on the whole subject at the next meeting of Synod.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Synod be returned to the citizens of Rahway, and to the pastors and officers of the First and Second

Presbyterian Churches for the kind and abundant hospitalities which they have extended to the members of the Synod, during the Sessions of the Synod in this place.

Resolved, That the calling the roll be dispensed with.

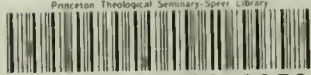
The Synod then adjourned to meet in the Presbyterian Church in the borough of Wilkesbarre, in the state of Pennsylvania, on the third Tuesday of October, 1863, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

Concluded with singing, prayer and the benediction.

RAVAUD K. RODGERS, Stated Clerk.

Thus far examined and approved by the General Assembly in session at Peoria, Illinois, May 30, 1863.

J. H. MORRISON, Moderator.



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